

Schlag, R., S. Teran, R. Kreutzer, L.R. Goldman, E. Blake, M. Armstrong and B. Watson (1991). Montecito childhood leukemia and lymphoma cluster: supplementary report. Emeryville, California Department of Health Services, Environmental Epidemiology and Toxicology Program.

BACKGROUND

In December of 1989, California Department of health Services (DHS) staff submitted findings of the Montecito Leukemia and Lymphoma Cluster Investigation to the community for input and suggestions. In the years between 1981 and 1988, six children 19 years of age or younger were diagnosed with leukemia or lymphoma in Montecito, a five-fold increase over what one would normally expect to see during this time period. (A seventh child with cancer was subsequently discovered in 1989 and was included in the investigation.) Details of the investigation can be found in the CDHS Montecito Leukemia and Lymphoma Cluster Investigation report (2/90). The community had several concerns regarding possible environmental causes of the cluster, and asked that DHS conduct additional research. In response to these concerns, 60-Hertz magnetic field exposures at Montecito Union School, ionizing radiation exposures, potential contamination of drinking water supplies, potential polychlorinated biphenyl exposures from transformers near Montecito Union School, and radon exposures were investigated. Research finds are presented in this supplementary report. A detailed description of the magnetic field environment at the school is presented in DHS's Montecito Uno School Magnetic Field Survey (12/90). The executive summary of the Magnetic Field Survey is included herein as Appendix 4. Copies of the Montecito Leukemia and Lymphoma Cancer Investigation Report and the Montecito Union School Magnetic Field Survey are available at the Montecito Public Library and through the Santa Barbara County Department of Health Care Services.